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July, 1947.

Gentlemen,

The following is my report for the year 1946. The statistics are based upon an estimated population of 2,041 persons, as compared with 2,032 persons in 1945. The area of your district is 74,536 acres or 116 square miles. The density is therefore 17.6 persons to each square mile. The number of inhabited houses on 31st December 1946 was 827 approximately. A penny rate yields £30.17s.9d. The rateable value is £8,072 - the chief industries are agriculture and the quarrying of boulder flint.

Your officials are -

W. C. Speirs, M.B., M.O.H.

J. V. Metcalfe, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector



V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

LIVE BIRTHS	TOTAL	M	F	RATE PER 1,000 OF POPULATION	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS	RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS
Total	31	20	11	15.19	-	-
Legitimate	24	14	10			
Illegitimate	7	6	1			
Still Births	-	-	-			
Legitimate	1	-	-		30.22	
Illegitimate	-	-	-			
Deaths under one year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths	27	17	10	13.23		

Deaths from puerperal causes Nil
Deaths from cancer 2
Deaths from measles Nil
Deaths from whooping cough Nil
Deaths from diarrhoea under 2 years Nil

There were 6 deaths from violence etc.,
17 of the deaths were over 70 years of age.
8 over 80 and 2 over 90 years of age.



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There were two nursing associations working in the District but now this is reduced to one. The Council subscribes to the remaining association.

Laboratory facilities Throat swabs, sputa and stools are sent to the County pathologist at Northallerton for examination. The majority of infectious cases are sent to the Isolation Hospital at Richmond. Tuberculous Meningitis and Spotted Fever cases are sent to Darlington. The fever van from Richmond is used in all cases.

Ambulance facilities Accidents and other urgent cases are removed to Hospital by the Red Cross Ambulance from Richmond - subscribers to the Darlington Memorial Hospital Ambulance are entitled to removal in one of the Ambulances of that Hospital. There are no clinics or treatment centres. There are no hospitals in the area of the Rural District Council.

S U M M A R Y O F D E A T H S

	M	F
Influenza	1	-
Cancer	2	-
Intracranial Vascular disease	4	4
Heart disease	2	-
Other Circulatory diseases	2	1
Bronchitis	1	-
Digestive disease	-	1
Suicide	-	1
Road Traffic accident	1	-
Other Violent causes	1	-
All other diseases	3	3
	17	10

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1946

	Sent to Hospital	Died
Typhoid	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Small Pox	-	-
Measles	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-
Malaria	-	-
Opthalmia Neo Natorum	-	-
Erysipelas	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-
Meningitis	-	-
Dysentery	-	-
TOTAL	3	1

Most of the children have been immunised against diphtheria.
We have had only one doubtful case since immunisation was introduced.

T U B E R C U L O S I S
Summary of Cases

Age Periods	New Bases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 or over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

I remain,

Gentlemen,

Respectfully yours,
W. C. SPEIRS

R E E T H R U R A L D I S T R I C T

Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1946

1. WATER

The summer of 1946 having been exceptionally wet, the supply of water to the nineteen townships and hamlets in the area was well maintained. A survey of existing supplies carried out with a view of ascertaining the needs of the district for a new supply, revealed that methods of collection were not entirely satisfactory. This was substantiated by the results of bacteriological examination of the water used at Keld, Thwaite, Muker, Gunnerside and Reeth. At Healaugh and Fremington the water is also open to contamination before reaching the storage tanks, while at Thwaite, complaints of discolouration of the water following heavy rain shows that the spring is not sufficiently deep seated to prevent the access of surface water.

As indicated in the Report for 1945, a commencement has now been made with a view to providing adequate supplies of wholesome water to the whole area, schemes having been prepared by the Council's Consultant, Mr. W. K. Rodwell, for submission to the County Council and to the Ministry of Health, under the provisions of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act 1944.

A survey of springs in the area revealed that suitable supplies could be obtained from (a) Hall Moor, above East Gyll, Keld, for Keld, Angram, Thorns, Thwaite, Muker and Gunnerside; (b) Barras End for Low Row, Feetham, Blades, Crackpot, Haverdale, Kearton and Healaugh; (c) Stelling for Marrick. Chemical and bacteriological analysis showed that these waters were suitable for domestic purposes. Preliminary plans for supplying water from these sources were prepared by Mr. Rodwell and submitted to the County Council for their observations. The latter favoured one scheme to supply all the villages in Swaledale and also Marrick, and as Mr. Rodwell had this in mind he assured the Council that this could be done by using the springs above East Gyll in preference to that at Barras End. Accordingly this regional scheme has been prepared and submitted to the County Council and will next be submitted to the Ministry of Health. In July, gauge boards were installed at three springs above East Gyll, the total yield then being 192,862 gallons per twenty-four hours, rising to 351,456 gallons in October. Gaugings will need to be recorded weekly during the summer of 1947.

During the year under review the main from the old supply at Gunnerside being defective was renewed, involving the laying of 150 yards of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and 300 yards of $1\frac{1}{4}$ " pipe.

Three houses have been provided with piped water supplies. Examination of private supplies to farms and isolated properties have been carried out, a number of which are open to surface contamination have now been remedied.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Thwaite, Low Row and Feetham, Langthwaite and Arkletown and Marrick

Schemes of sewerage for the above villages are now being prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineer under the provisions of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act 1944.

Keld The sewers here are to be extended to take in the properties at High Green, and new disposal works are to be provided.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE (CONT'D.)

Reeth, Fremington (not at present sewered) and Grinton are to be linked by one sewer discharging at new disposal works to be provided below Grinton.

Healaugh The sewers here are to be extended and new disposal works provided.

During the year the sewer at Grinton was extended to take in further four houses.

3. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Conversion to water closets.....	14
Sceptic tanks installed.....	4
Cesspools installed.....	2

4. RIVERS AND STREAMS

The River Swale and the Arkle Beck are the natural means of drainage for a large part of the area. The former is contaminated by household refuse thrown in at Keld and Grinton, the latter at Langthwaite. The Becks passing through Thwaite, Muker and Gunnerside are also contaminated in this manner, and can only be obviated by the regular collection of household refuse.

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING

Scavenging at Reeth and Healaugh is carried out by local contractors. The need is for new tips, that at Skelgate being too difficult to access and the tip at Healaugh is too close to the houses, apart from being, as it is, on the village green and marring the amenities.

At other villages tips are provided, but being, as they should, some distance from the houses, are not used to a great extent. The result being the creation of unofficial dumps throughout the area.

Now that motor transport makes communication easier, it becomes more desirable that the scavenging of the whole area should be undertaken.

6. SCHOOLS

The sanitary arrangements and water supplies to the schools in the Area have been maintained during the year.

7. MILK SUPPLY

Routine inspections to farm premises and dairies were carried out during the year, a large number of cowsheds having bad lighting and poor ventilation, and lack proper water supply.

8. FOOD INSPECTION

Food shops in the area have been found to be clean and in good order. During the year 24lbs. of corned **beef**, **5 stone of fish**, **7lbs. bacon** and 14lbs. of jam were condemned and destroyed.

9. RODENT CONTROL

This, owing to staff shortage has had to be confined to Council property, viz. refuse tips and sewage disposal works.

At the Reeth tip a major infestation was effectively dealt with by prebaiting with sausage rusk, followed with Zinc Phosphide. Subsequent post baiting showed no takes.

9. RODENT CONTROL (CONT'D.)

Feetham tip, a minor infestation was also dealt with. A good kill was also obtained at Reeth sewage works.

10. INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Two disinfections were carried out during the year, both after cases of Scarlet Fever.

11. RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

A total of 152 houses were inspected and classified according to their condition for the purpose of this survey. The survey reveals the low standard of housing conditions that prevail in the district, and while full details are not yet complete, it can be said that there is a large lack of amenities, and that dampness, both rising and penetrative is the rule rather than the exception. Should reconditioning of rural cottages be reintroduced, special care will need to be taken to ensure that expense in providing improvement and amenities is not put into houses which after completion are not in all respects dry, - not easy to accomplish in stone houses built two hundred years ago. Such cottages as cannot be made dry and which are part of the character of the surrounding district, and for which reason it is desirable that they should be retained, could let for summer visitors, new houses being built for permanent residents.

12. SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Complaints investigated.....	39
Drains tested.....	46
Bakehouses.....	11
Ice Cream manufacture.....	6
Foodshops.....	41
Factories.....	28
Hotels, catering establishments & licensed premises.....	16
Cowsheds and Dairies.....	90
Housing (miscellaneous).....	112
Work in progress.....	89
Council waterworks.....	65
Council sewerage.....	32
Private water supplies.....	27

13. CIVIL BUILDING CONTROL - DEFENCE REGULATION 56A

Much time has had to be devoted to work under these Regulations. 162 licences for essential work to buildings having been issued, requiring 217 visits. The value of these licences being £8,648 for work on houses, and £1,172 for work other than houses.

As no house building was carried out in the area, the use of local labour, essentially jobbing workers has, to a large extent been controlled by licensing powers, resulting in the improvement of houses in the area, as evidenced in the following analysis.

Additional W.C's. and new drainage.....	12
Installation of private disposal works.....	6
Provision of hot water.....	18
Bathrooms.....	16
New combination ranges.....	28
New sinks.....	18
Pantry accommodation.....	9
Coal store.....	4
Piped water supplies.....	7
Dry area around house.....	3
Additional bedrooms.....	6
Major roof repairs.....	8
New Floors.....	11
Windows enlarged (No. of houses).....	12

13. CIVIL BUILDING CONTROL - DEFENCE REGULATION 56A (CONT'D.)

Staircases altered to give separate approach to rooms....	5
Cottages reconditioned.....	4
New chimney flue linings.....	17
Ceilings renewed.....	23

14. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected during the year for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	178
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	283
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.....	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	Nil
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation.....	43
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.....	119

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.....	35
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	8
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) by owners.....	8
(b) by local authority in default of owners.....	Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts	
1. Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	6
2. Number of houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices	
(a) by owners.....	6
(b) by local authority in default of owners.....	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	Nil
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	Nil

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR (CONT'D.)

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing
Act 1936

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms
in respect of which Closing Orders were
determined..... Nil
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms
in respect of which Closing Orders were
determined, the tenement or room being rendered
fit..... Nil

4. HOUSING ACT 1936 PART IV OVERCROWDING

- (a)
 1. Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the
end of the year..... Nil
 2. Number of families dwelling therein..... Nil
 3. Number of persons dwelling therein..... Nil
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported
during the year..... Nil
- (c)
 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved
during the year..... Nil
 2. Number of persons concerned in such cases..... Nil
- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses
have again been overcrowded after the local
authority have taken steps for the abatement of
overcrowding..... Nil
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding
conditions upon which the Medical Officer of
Health may consider desirable to report..... Nil

